

Supplement to the Hawaiian Gazette, No. 2, May 11, 1881.

Hawaiian Gazette

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 1881.

It is a great pity that our Government does not take more interest in the Library, or at least that part of it which is devoted to miscellaneous literature. The Law Library we believe to be a very good one and the books in an excellent state of preservation, but any one who wishes to consult the literary section finds first, that it is very difficult to obtain a clue to what he may wish to find, and secondly, when he has got his book, the chances are that it is in a very dilapidated condition. A good nucleus of the kind of library that ought to be formed was obtained when the Government bought up the collection of the late Mr. Pense. Valuable copies of the principal voyages were then acquired and had they been supplemented from year to year, by this time, we might have stood in a high position. It certainly ought to be the aim of this Government to do something towards preserving in a convenient place all records connected with our own islands, and also those of other groups. The history of the Pacific has never yet been written, but it will be written in time, and when it is, it will present a picture of as stirring activity as any man need wish to peruse. The Hawaiian Government Library ought to be the storehouse whence much of the information should be drawn. At present there are some serious omissions which we know could be easily remedied: take for instance Hakluyt's work, a most valuable collection of voyages, absolutely indispensable to any one making researches. It is quoted in the list of old books, but no one, has, to our knowledge made any effort to add it to our collection. Peter Martyr's *Decades* finds no place on the shelves; indeed we might go on giving a list of omissions which would fill a column or more of the newspaper. Some one, acquainted with the class of literature which it is desirable to acquire, should be consulted and yearly a few additions to be made, as funds permit. The books at present in the library should be overhauled, those which are dilapidated should be rebound: there is a copy of Burney's collection of voyages which is actually dropping to pieces. Then a process of weeding might be advantageously used, and much worthless trash, which has no business on the shelves of such a library, might be sent down to the auction room and sold; and finally every one who has need to use the library would hail with delight an intelligent catalogue and a systematic arrangement of the books on the shelves. There is, at present, no arrangement, a work on church history elbows a stray copy of *Silliman's Journal* and that is followed by some ancient work of fiction. A little energy and interest thrown into the matters connected with the Government Library, would in a few years produce a collection of which we might be justly proud, and we trust that we may shortly see some action inaugurated.

THE last numbers of the *Messenger de Tahiti* bring us some interesting items of intelligence about the French Colony. We see that the estimated receipts and expenditures for the present year are 1,000,000 of francs or about \$200,000. The expenses come under three heads, first those of the Administration, under which come the salaries of Government officers, police, public instruction and worship, towards the latter a little more than \$5,000 is paid for printing, justice, prisons, etc. Secondly, those for public works, providing for repairs of public buildings and the erection of new ones, and thirdly, the expenses for the general interest, such as pensions, encouragement of agriculture, expenses for the National Fete of July 14th. It is interesting to note that the largest single item is for public instruction, for which a little over \$12,000 is given—and the next largest is for roads which absorb \$16,500. Some things seem remarkably cheap. The band, for instance, costs about \$1000; but we do not know what sort of band it can be for the money. In fact, the whole budget is marked by strict economy, which it would be well for our legislators to study and copy. These expenditures are not for the island of Tahiti alone, but embrace Tahiti, and Moorea, Gambier, the Marquises, Tuamotu and Tubuai. The revenue is to be raised by a poll-tax of \$4 for the men, \$2 for the women; there is a further tax of \$2 40 per head, but only levied on residents in the town of Papeete; a house-tax of 2 per cent. on the rental value, but property below an annual rental of \$60 is exempt; licenses, varying of course in value from \$25, which is paid by large wholesale shipping merchants, down to \$5 for those professions which are not named in the lists. It is odd to see the doctors, butchers, and bakers classed together; they pay \$50 each. Licenses to sell liquor in the town of Papeete cost \$50, and in *say* of the islands \$150 till the first of July; after that date they will be \$200; the French physicians considering it advisable to sell wine, etc., to the natives as a matter of health; the law, however, is strict against drunkenness; and finally duties, harbor dues, etc.

A board of Hygiene and of Public Health has also recently been appointed, the formation of which is not in accordance with the view that has been advocated here of having a board composed entirely of "intelligent" laymen. The Tahitian board has a president and ten members, three of whom are doctors and two apothecaries. This leaves only a casting vote to the lay side, the president being a layman. Its members are chosen as follows: The Minister of Interior,

ex-officio president; the head of the sanitary service; a doctor and an apothecary belonging to the navy; a representative from each of the services of the Executive, Interior, and Roads and Bridges; a doctor and an apothecary (civilians); a merchant; a landed proprietor. This board is evidently constructed to be as representative as possible. Its duties are clearly laid down, and if its members attend to them, ought certainly to do much to keep the country healthy. They are, of course, to take measures to prevent or combat endemic, epidemic, or transmissible diseases; also the diseases of animals; to enforce vaccination; to supervise the sanitary condition of workshops, schools, hospitals, charitable institutions, prisons, etc.; to prevent the sale of adulterated articles of diet. Under their authority are placed all the public works, whether constructed or in course of construction. Were the latter rule applied here, it would be a great gain, for some of our public buildings have been constructed without any idea of what is proper light and ventilation.

The water supply to the town of Papeete seems cheap and abundant. Each person is charged according to the quantity he takes: for 250 litres a day, \$12 is charged; for 1000 litres, \$30; and for every thousand above that, \$15 a year extra.

Tahiti and the surrounding islands have not, up to the present, been regarded as nearly of such importance as our own group; but as trade and cultivation develops on the coasts and islands of the ocean, Tahiti will rise in importance. It remains to be seen whether the form of government introduced by the French, or that which we have here, is best adapted for developing the powers of the Polynesian race.

Leaves from my Diary—No. 2.

April, 1881. It is the evening following the temperance organization meeting spoken of in my last, and the same company are again gathered on my veranda, while I have stationed myself just within the open door, with pencil and paper to jot down the conversation which ensues.

George Alimeli.—I am really glad that we attended the meeting last night. I was pleased also to see so many there. "Tis an evidence of the lively interest that has been awakened in the community on this very important subject of the temperance reform.

Captain Alimeli.—Temperance reform indeed! Why, George, with the exception of yourself, I didn't see a single person in that meeting who needed any reform in that direction, for they were all teetotallers—by profession, at least—and pretty much all good church members. They *must* be strict teetotallers it seems in these days, or they are not good. But it wasn't so in my young days—and there were as good Christians then as now; I'll be bound. I can remember that when the Minister made his stated rounds in those good old days—I was but a youngster then—the decanter of rum or brandy was always put on the sideboard for him. Temperance Reform indeed! It will only amount to a mutual admiration society of people that don't need any reform. But still, you had better join it, George.

George.—I will, Captain, if you will set the example. I like to follow the lead of age and experience in matters of reform.

Parma Adams.—It is indeed a very encouraging fact that Christian men and women here are taking an active part in organizing and carrying on this work—and it is quite true that the church in these islands—in all its branches, became more pronounced on this reform, even by making total abstinence from using, buying, or selling alcoholic liquors, a part of its creed. The practice of using ardent spirits has always been inimical to religion, and has everywhere obstructed the missionary work. The Rev. Mr. Ellis, many years ago declared that subsequent to the introduction of Christianity to the Sandwich Islands by the missionaries, there was no means which the enemies of morals and religion had employed more extensively and perseveringly for the purpose of counteracting the influence of Christian instruction, and corrupting and degrading the people, than the importation of spirituous liquors; and no means of evil had been employed with more injurious effects.

The Captain.—Well, yes; no doubt there was a good deal of mischief done by the free use of liquor among the natives, who didn't know how to use it. When Kamehameha took off that tabu—the row of Kanis, the people called it—these were precious times, to be sure, until he put it on again. The tabu is necessary for the savage, to keep him under control, but not for a civilized man. Why, bless you, the first missionaries to these islands had their "small stores" of brandy and wine sent out by the Board from Boston; and right good stuff it was, and I have heard old residents say who did odd jobs for the missionaries away back in the Twenties, and were occasionally treated to a glass of cognac. Ah, how times and men have changed since then!

George.—And they do say, moreover, that liquor has also suffered a change for the worse.

Dr. Escalante.—Chemistry has investigated the composition and properties of alcohol, and determined its real position in the *materia alchemica* and *materia medica*, showing that it ought to be entirely excluded from the former, and to be used in the latter principally for the carrying on of certain pharmaceutical processes. Chemistry has determined that the whole class of intoxicating liquors strongly resemble each other in their physical properties, that they all alike owe their popularity and their power of fascination to this deadly agent—*alcohol*—and differ merely in the proportion of alcohol, water, coloring matter, and flavors.

George.—So you perceive, Captain, it makes no real difference whether you "nominate your poison" to be Three Star Brandy, Jamaica Rum, Schnapps, Old Kentucky Favorite Whisky, or *skolek*—it's all the "deadly agent, alcohol," more or less disguised.

The Captain.—No, Sir, that talk may do for green hands and common drunkards; but I know a pure article when I taste it.

Parma Adams.—I must confess that the more I think on this subject the more I am convinced that drunkenness is a national evil and requires a national remedy; and therefore I take my stand on this platform: That it is morally wrong to manufacture the drink; morally wrong to sell the drink; morally wrong to drink the drink; moral-

ly wrong to give the drink; morally wrong in any way to encourage its manufacture, sale and use; and that the only effectual remedy for this national curse is the legislative prohibition of the traffic in all its branches.

The Captain.—When I perceive, Sir, that you are an ultra reformer—an extremist—and I doubt if you will find a very large proportion of your brother clergymen strong enough in their convictions or bold enough to vigorously endorse your views. It is very clear that the work of evangelizing the people in civilized countries and Christianizing the heathen abroad is greatly hindered and counteracted by the drinking system. Yet what attitude has the Church of Christ taken in reference to it? With sorrow be it said, it has too often dallied with the monster, favored its interests, and at the same time treated the temperance enterprise with absolute contempt, or at least, has "damned it with faint praise." I rejoice in the hope, however, that this coolness and indifference will now cease, and that the clergy of all denominations will be found, not only actively co-operating, but leading in the temperance movement.

The Library Association.

HONOLULU, December 10th, 1880.

To the Directors of the Honolulu Library Association.—*Gentlemen*: The importance of the Honolulu Library Association is increasing constantly, and its usefulness daily better felt, not only by its own members, but also by the community at large, who, after liberally contributing to the late fair, feel, by the various improvements and acquisitions lately made, that the money collected has been used in a practical way. There is however still, a weak point in the working of this Association. We must not forget that it was resolved by those who at first advocated its establishment, that not only this institution was to provide for the public, books, newspapers, reviews and in fact, a bulk of readable matter as important as possible, but also it was to be a centre of reunion and recreation for its members, and therefore it was voted that lectures and musical entertainments were to be organized as often as possible. This, as yet, has been rather a desideratum than a reality, despite the zeal and kindness of the different members who have contributed various interesting and much appreciated lectures. We know however, that this point is attracting all due attention from the officers of the Library, and accordingly let us hope that the necessary measures being taken to organize proper courses of lectures and entertainments, the future will show a marked advance in this respect, thus supplying a want deeply felt in the society of Honolulu.

The last steps in the right direction towards completing the workings and usefulness of the Honolulu Library Association, has been to secure a very valuable piano-forte, which I hope will be an incentive towards the organization of more frequent musical recreations.

And now I believe the time has come for a proposition which I have been long wanting to submit to the Association, in relation to the creation of what might be termed the *musical department* of the Library. In the same way that our fellow-members find on our shelves books and reviews, they can either read in the room or carry home—I think it would be a most desirable thing, a thing which would meet with the general approbation of all our musical-minded partners, to turn our attention towards procuring a number of musical books and sheets of all kinds of vocal and instrumental music, which would either be played in the hall for the amusement of those who frequent the rooms or carried away for private study. Such action would probably occasion speedy increase in the number of lady members, who would here find what is absolutely wanting in Honolulu, viz: something of the kind of institutions—"musical circulating libraries," which are now-a-days existing in the smallest towns of Europe, and in which for a trifling monthly contribution, anyone has the power of selecting from large collections of new and old music and of carrying the desired pieces away for study. It would certainly be useless for us to insist here on the usefulness of these musical libraries for the improvement of musical knowledge; nothing is better adapted to help the subscribers in the most desirable faculty of reading music at sight, an improvement to be acquired only by the constant practice of reading numerous new pieces, which would otherwise be too expensive to buy.

The establishment of this musical department, to which I myself gladly offer to contribute in the measure of my faculties—would, I think, be assured in two ways:

1st. By giving public notice or invitation to all the musical inhabitants of the islands to send in to our library all the useless music they might possess, in the way as request was made for books, in the early days of the Association's existence; and I am sure all the friends of the library would gladly respond.

2d. By voting a small annual subsidy for subscription towards one of the best American or English musical papers of vocal and instrumental music, and for buying a certain number of new pieces of the styles which experience will show best suited to the wants and wishes of the Association.

The only thing on which I must dwell in this proposition of mine, is that music—or more properly, the paper in which it is printed, being unlikeliest of a rather fragile nature, special precautions would have to be taken to ensure the proper preservation of the pieces against wear and tear, and accordingly special rules would have to be adopted by the Association, of which I merely here suggest the most important:

1st. The books and sheets of music would have to be put in a proper order before being allowed in the hands of the members; that is to say, that in case of bound books, the keeper would have to be careful that no sheets were loose or torn, and if any found such, were to have them properly gummed; the sheet music would have to be properly sewn together and the whole secured by a cover of thick paper on this music, parted over the outside pages; moreover, sheet music would have to be repaired as soon as any wear manifests itself.

2d. The members, both in Honolulu and on the islands, should have the use of the contents of the musical department in the same way as they now use the books and reviews, viz: They be authorized to take them away, in the proportion of one bound volume or three sheet pieces at a time, and these not to be kept more than two weeks, but to be changed as often as wished.

3d. If any book or sheet of music be soiled or

torn by the subscribers, a new copy of it should be replaced by them, or if not procurable, should be replaced by another of the same value and nature, or its value paid in cash to the Treasurer.

I think that an innovation of this kind, which would in a very few years lead to the creation of a most valuable musical library—would not only create an agreeable recreation to our members, but would tend to propagate and cultivate the taste for music in our islands, by providing for all amateurs the enjoyment of hearing or studying many pieces of the most varied natures, too expensive or too difficult for individual efforts to procure, and it would thus constitute a public benefit.

Accordingly, if the Directors of the Honolulu Library Association, find it fit, I should wish them to submit my proposition to a meeting of members, and if approved of, and proper rules be adopted, as also a subsidy be voted for new music, I am ready to bring forth my offering, which I hope will soon be followed by liberal contributions from all parts of the islands, if proper publicity is given to this new move of our Association.

I am, gentlemen, very respectfully, A. MARQUES.

Latest Foreign News.

Per D. C. Murray and W. H. Dimond.

GLOVES GAP, W. V., April 18th.—The town is in a panic over the small-pox epidemic. Physicians are prostrate, and the Governor refuses to bury the dead, saying the county should do so. The trains do not stop.

ATHENS, April 16th.—The *Hera*, the organ of Triopis, characterizes the reply of the Greek Government to the proposal of the Powers as the most disgraceful *coup d'etat* since the formation of the Greek Kingdom.

ATHENS, April 18th.—An important demonstration against the policy of the Government has been made here, under the auspices of the National League.

PARIS, April 18th.—The correspondence between France and Tunis is published. Barthélemy St. Hilaire, French Minister of Foreign Affairs, in a dispatch to Roustan, dated the 6th instant, says: "The French Generals will give the Tunisian troops notice of the time when strategic exigencies will lead them to borrow for their operations Tunisian territory, either near Lacalle or in the Medjerda Valley."

NEW YORK, April 18th.—Judge Wallace of the United States Court, gave S. A. Welch & Co., a verdict against Collector Merritt for excessive duties paid on sugar. The decision is very important as a test case to decide many others, aggregating a million dollars. Importers claim that the planters had a perfect right to make sugars light or dark, as best suited to the market for which they were intended. Judge Wallace so ruled.

LONDON, April 18th.—Calcutta dispatches say: The Indian Government has made such strong representations in favor of the retention of the Pishin Valley, and all other posts between Khojak and Quetta that it is thought the home Government will sanction this arrangement, which would be a decided modification of their views in regard to the abandonment of Southern Afghanistan. The news that the compromise is probable has given decided satisfaction in India.

NEW YORK, April 18th.—The *Times* Washington special says: The sharp words which passed between Mahone and the Democratic Senators are not likely to make any trouble. The days of dueling are past in this country. It is reported that Mahone says he can easily dispose of all the Democratic Senators one by one if they will meet him on the field of diet, sleep and other habits of daily life. That is, they will eat, sleep and drink as little as he does, and smoke as much. Any challenges looking to a contest of this kind would probably be accepted.

NEW YORK, April 18th.—The *Herald* says: The proposition of Lieutenant Greeley, leader of the Lady Franklin bay meteorological Arctic expedition to search for the *Jennett* near Cape Joseph Henry, 1,500 miles from Wrangle Land, will supplement the labors of the search parties proceeding through Behring Straits. Lieutenant Greeley's plan is based on the possibility of the *Jennett* having been drifted in a northeasterly current from Wrangle Land over toward Cape Joseph Henry. The Navy Department has accepted his offer.

NEW YORK, April 16th.—A French publication styled the *La Correspondence*, states that it has authority for declaring that no terms of peace imposed by Chile on Peru, such as was recently published, have been brought to the notice of the American Government by M. Asta Barnaga and Marcial Martinez, who recently presented to the President his credentials as Minister of Chile. Those conditions were published in the *Valparaiso Mercurio*, not even as if reported by its correspondent at the seat of war, but as an extract from a letter written by a simple officer of the victorious army to a friend at Valparaiso, by whom it was communicated to the Chilean organ. The letter merely said that it was the desire of the army that such conditions should be imposed upon Peru, and that was all.

NEW YORK, April 16th.—The *Times* on the Tammany election, says: The Kelly ticket for Sachems was elected by some fifty votes. When Kelly's supremacy in the party is to be contested, some other field of action than Tammany Hall must be selected. As a mere question of loss and gain we do not know that political affairs would have gained anything by the substitution of say Judge Donohue for John Kelly, and there seems to be no particular reason to doubt that the Tammany Society is the best judge of the kind of men who ought to rule it. From a Republican standpoint the perpetuation of Kelly's power is anything but a misfortune.

The *Herald* says: The manner in which the "Boss" Kelly majority was secured adds another chapter to the disgraceful record of the leaders of Tammany in years past. The hall was packed by a disreputable dodge with the hangers of the "Boss," who at an early hour created a scrimmage, which was made to serve as an excuse for bringing in the police, contrary to all the usages of the Society.

The *Tribune* says: From a Republican point of view, the result of last night's elections would seem to be fortunate, inasmuch as it insures the continuance of the Democratic quarrels.

BERLIN, April 18th.—The *Cour* has countermanded his orders for the erection of additional fortresses on the German frontier.

NEW YORK, April 10th.—A Washington special to the *Commercial Bulletin*, usually well informed, says that President Garfield told a Senator today that unless the deadlock in the Senate was broken this week, he would call an extra session of Congress on Saturday, to convene within a reasonable time.